

Message Text

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ACTION DLOS-09

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 ACDA-12 AGRE-00 AID-05
CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00
DOTE-00 EB-08 EPA-01 SOE-01 DOE-12 FMC-01 TRSE-00
H-01 INR-07 INT-05 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
NSF-01 OES-07 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-05 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 OIC-02
/179 W

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P R 192343Z DEC 77
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8783
INFO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: UNGA, PLOS
SUBJECT: LOS - TERMINATION OF AMERASINGHE'S CONTRACT

1. AT UN REGIONAL GROUP MEETING OF WESTERN EUROPEAN AND OTHER STATES HELD MORNING OF 19 DECEMBER UNDER CHAIRMANSHIP OF AMB BARTON (CANADA), THE AGENDA ITEM ENTITLED PRESIDENCY LOS CONFERENCE (ENDORSEMENT BY ALL REGIONAL GROUPS IS REQUIRED IF AMB. AMERASINGHE OF SRI LANKA IS TO CONTINUE TO SERVE) WAS PUT BEFORE THE GROUP.

2. THE TEXT OF A DRAFT LETTER FROM BARTON TO SECRETARY-GENERAL WALDHEIM WHICH FOLLOWS IS A SUCCINCT ACCOUNTING OF THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE GROUP.

QUOTE

MY DEAR SECRETARY-GENERAL,

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I HAVE THE HONOUR, ON BEHALF OF THE GROUP OF WESTERN EUROPEAN AND OTHER STATES, TO REFER TO THE QUESTION OF THE PRESIDENCY OF THE LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE. IN THIS CONNECTION, I UNDERSTAND IT IS YOUR INTENTION TO WRITE A LETTER TO THE GOVERNMENT OF SRI LANKA TO ASK ITS FORMAL PERMISSION TO ALLOW HIS EXCELLENCY MR. H. SHIRLEY AMERASINGHE TO CONTINUE HIS PRESIDENCY OF THE LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE,

AT LEAST AT THE FORTHCOMING SESSION.

THE GROUP OF WESTERN EUROPEAN AND OTHER STATES, AT ITS MEETING ON DECEMBER 19TH, EXPRESSED UNANIMOUS SUPPORT FOR THE PROPOSAL THAT AMBASSADOR AMERASINGHE SHOULD BE PERMITTED TO CONTINUE TO FUNCTION AS THE PRESIDENT OF THE LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE. THE HOPE WAS EXPRESSED THAT THE UNITED NATIONS ITSELF WOULD BE ABLE TO OFFER HIM THE APPROPRIATE TRAVEL EXPENSES AND PER DIEM ALLOWANCES TO ALLOW HIM TO FUNCTION AS IN EFFECT SPECIAL CONSULTANT TO THE UNITED NATIONS IN THIS REGARD. THE HOPE WAS ALSO EXPRESSED THAT IN ORDER TO AVOID A POSSIBLE UNFORTUNATE PRECEDENT IN THE FUTURE, THE GOVERNMENT OF SRI LANKA COULD SET ITS WAY CLEAR TO APPOINTING AMBASSADOR AMERASINGHE AS A SPECIAL ADVISOR TO THE DELEGATION OF SRI LANKA TO THE LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE SO THAT HE WOULD HAVE SOME NATIONAL STATUS. IN THE EVENT THAT THIS COULD NOT BE ARRANGED, QUESTIONS MIGHT POSSIBLY BE RAISED AS TO THE PROPRIETY OF A CONSULTANT TO THE UNITED NATIONS SERVING AS THE PRESIDENT OF A PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE. IT WAS THE HOPE OF THE GROUP THAT IN DRAFTING YOUR LETTER TO THE GOVERNMENT OF SRI LANKA SOME OF THESE POINTS MIGHT BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT.

ACCEPT, MR. SECRETARY-GENERAL, ASSURANCES OF MY HIGHEST CONSIDERATION.

W.H. BARTON,
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AMBASSADOR AND
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 19-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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